



## **USAID: Celebrating Our Shared Values**

November marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of United States President John F. Kennedy's creation of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Whether it is vaccinating children against preventable diseases, improving crop yields, or responding to disasters, over the past 50 years, USAID has been a quiet force for progress in 100 countries, fostering a more peaceful and secure world.

For 60 years, the U.S. government has been providing grants, loans, and technical assistance to almost every sector, from agriculture to health to energy and education. USAID's longstanding collaboration has created a rich legacy of achievement that is a model for development partnerships around the world.

India and USAID have used our respective strengths to develop, test, and deploy innovation and technologies to address the critical global problems of food production, climate variability, health, and energy. Together we helped usher in the Green Revolution of the 1960s, which led to major new advances in agriculture and saved millions of people around the world from starvation. Together, we financed infrastructure for electricity distribution, irrigation systems, power, and schools in rural India. Together, we worked to strengthen immunization programs, combat diarrheal diseases, reduce the incidence of polio and other infectious diseases, control the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and help families have healthier children.

Working with U.S. universities, we helped to establish one of the premier technology institutes in India as well as eight agricultural universities. We have helped to introduce transformative teaching technologies in remote schools and helped prepare Indian youth for the rapidly growing, 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. And among many other joint achievements, our scientists have worked side by side to develop sophisticated satellite systems for weather forecasting, communications systems, biomedicine, and renewable energy.

Today, we stand at an important turning point. In partnership with India, USAID is transforming from a traditional aid agency into a modern development enterprise that is unleashing a new spirit of innovation based on science, technology, and measurable results. On behalf of USAID, I would like to thank the people and government of India for your partnership and friendship over the past six decades. President Obama has described the U.S. India relationship as “one of the defining partnerships of the 21st century – bound by shared interests and shared values.” The collaboration that led to so many successes over the last 60 years will continue to serve us well as we work together to solve some of the great global development challenges of our time.